New York Tribune

First to Last—the Truth: News—Editorials—Advertisements

Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1922

Owned by New York Tribune Inc., a New York Corporation. Published daily. Ogden Reid, President; Helen Rogers Reid, Secretary; R. E. Mayfield, Treasurer. Address, Tribune Building, 154 Nassau Street, New York City. Telephone, Beekman 3000.

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	One Year	Six Months	One Month
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The Choice

So far as New York City is concerned the campaign for Governor is narrowing down, as it draws to a close, to the transit problem.

The most important thing the next state administration can do for this town is to give it enough subways and maintain a five-cent fare. That will be done by the Transit Commission, appointed by Governor Miller, if Governor Miller is re-elected.

Mr. Smith promises, if elected, to remove the Transit Commission. This means a continuance of conditions as they are at present. It means intolerable overcrowding and absolute lack of transit facilities in many parts of the city.

Judging by Mr. Smith's past performances, it means a seven or an eight cent fare, for it was his transit commissioners, Lewis Nixon and John H. Delaney, who advocated a higher fare and who while in office permitted transfer revocations which put a seven-cent fare in effect on some routes.

It is not surprising that Mr. Smith evades the transit issue, while Governor Miller insists upon his meeting it. Mr. Smith knows that his Tammany colleague, Mr. Hylan, will seek to control transit if Tammany wins the election. And he knows as well as any man living how Mr. Hylan has blocked all progress in subway construction and how little he understands the problem.

If the citizens of New York want new subways and a consolidated system with a single five-cent fare they will vote for Mr. Miller. If they want Tammany control of the subway system and the system administered as the bus lines have been administered they will vote for Mr. Smith.

The Mounting Cost of Hylan

The budget for 1918, the last year of the Mitchel administration, was $238,123,759. For 1923 it will be $353,351,812. Mr. Hylan since he has been elected has increased the expenses of the city government $115,228,053.

Normal increase, due to increasing population, would amount to perhaps half that amount. But Mr. Hylan has not been content with normal increase. He is a Tammany Mayor, and Tammany mayors are always free spenders of the citizens' money.

If the citizens had got new subways, sufficient school buildings or improvement in any department of the public service under Mr. Hylan they might swallow the increase without complaining. But no new subways have been planned or built, school buildings are notoriously insufficient, and the service of the various departments is less efficient and satisfactory than under Mr. Mitchel.

Mr. Hylan's only innovation is the bus lines. No one but a handful of Tammany politicians considers them worth the money they cost.

Canada's Minister to America

So many are the ties that bind the United States and Canada that the decision of the British government in 1920 that Canada was to conduct her relations with this country directly through her own representative in Washington was hailed as a logical and sensible move.

According to this decision the Canadian representative was to have the rank of minister and was to serve as chargé d'affaires of the British Embassy in Washington during the absence of the British Ambassador. Canada, therefore, was to be practically independent of Great Britain in her relations with this country, and was to take her place as a sister republic on the same diplomatic footing as other nations.

To carry out this decision, of course, meant a radical departure in the conduct of Britain's foreign affairs. Before 1920 the British Ambassador was the representative of Canada and Australia as well as of England. To permit Canada to send a minister to the United States, therefore, would establish the precedent of independent representation for the dominions, and thus go even further in recognizing the national status of these countries than was done when they were admitted to membership in the League of Nations.

The idea of direct diplomatic relations with Canada is popular in this country, and there is general hope that a minister will be appointed pursuant to the decision of the British government. If the matter should be permitted to drop Americans would regret that this opportunity further to cement the relations between the two great English-speaking nations of America had been lost.

Billingsgate Not Argument

If instead of thinking up epithets to apply to an able and courageous investigator Commissioner Whalen would think up some explanation of his position it would profit him more.

It has been shown by the testimony of those immediately concerned that conditions in the bus lines, which are under Mr. Whalen's supervision, are extremely bad. Tammany contractors have received permits for operation, administration favorites have written the bus insurance and money has been demanded for the privilege of doing business in Manhattan.

Mr. Whalen is new in office, but even with his limited experience he ought to know that foul language does not avail a man as a defense. He would do well to save his billingsgate to bandy with his bus drivers and seek to prepare for the Transit Commission and the citizens of New York whatever facts in defense of his department he has to offer.

The Governor and the Schools

The public schools touch the homes of the city as do few other public institutions. They are the close adjunct of home life itself. Upon their efficiency and success depends the future of the most precious possession the city has, its children.

It is hard to exaggerate the pass to which Hylanism has brought the city's schools. Demoralization is scarcely too strong a term to apply to that confusion of part time and double session to which the policy of illiteracy pursued by the present Mayor has brought the city. There were 34,000 children on part time when Mr. Hylan took office. There are to-day 153,000. There are, in addition, over 200,000 children on a makeshift program of double sessions which yields far from a full-time education. The evils which this overcrowding has produced have affected the efficiency of the entire school system.

The problem of meeting this educational crisis is a grave one. It is second only to the transit issue in its importance to the general public, and it is even more vital to the welfare of the city. There is no short cut to a solution. So long as Mr. Hylan remains Mayor any solution is doubly difficult to apply.

If Mr. Smith should be elected Governor there could be no reasonable hope of betterment. Mr. Smith showed himself a friend of the school teachers while Governor by co-operating with a Republican Legislature to force an increase in teachers' pay down Mr. Hylan's throat. But he has not shown interest in the part-time problem. It is hopeless to expect that he would, as Governor, attack a Tammany Mayor and a Tammany Board of Education with the vigor necessary to end the present evils, which are wholly political in their origin.

To achieve that result there is need at Albany of an anti-Tammany Governor and a Legislature co-operating toward a single end. There is need of a Governor versed in educational problems and convinced of their profound importance. It is a fortunate chance for New York City that Mr. Miller taught school and was a commissioner of education in his early life. Here is one part of that extraordinary mental equipment which has made Governor Miller, by general agreement, one of the ablest executives in the whole history of the state. In his recent address before the university of the state Mr. Miller showed his complete grasp of the part-time problem and of his resolve to see it solved.

Governor Miller has shown himself a no less stalwart friend of liberal pay to teachers than did Mr. Smith. When the Hylan administration cut twenty-seven millions out of the city budget for education it was Governor Miller and the Republican Legislature that restored it. Moreover, for two years now he has continued the state's increased contribution to the salaries of school teachers initiated in Governor Smith's second year. But the re-election of Governor Miller would give hope of not only liberal financial support but an enlightened reform of the educational system of New York City aimed to place education above politics, and make next to impossible a recurrence of Hylanism in the schools. No invasion of the principle of home rule would be necessary in the light of experience in other cities. What is necessary is a courageous, far-sighted Governor, gravely concerned over the city's schools and possessing the force and character to accomplish a truly constructive reform.

The teachers of New York City and the parents of New York City should have no hesitation in casting their ballots on Tuesday. In Governor Miller they will have as stanch an upholder of liberal financial support to insure an adequate teaching staff as they would have in Mr. Smith, and they will have in addition a constructive ability and a courageous independence of Tammany in rescuing our schools from their present slough of Hylanism that not Mr. Smith's warmest admirers can expect from him.

Thomas Nelson Page

Few modern American authors succeeded so well as Thomas Nelson Page in flavoring their writings with the charm of personality. As a stylist Page was not supreme, nor as a creator of fiction. But as a genial teller of tales of the South he had few equals. His negro stories are among the best of their kind, and so also are some of his sketches of plantation scenes.

Of his career in public office there is little to be said. He served as Ambassador to Italy throughout the war and won the warm affection of the Italians. America's relations with Italy throughout most of this period were cordial and unimportant. His role, therefore, was not as difficult as that of his namesake in London. The account that he has left of these years in consequence does not compare in interest with the letters of Walter Page.

But whether as a diplomat or author Thomas Nelson Page was loved for his personality. It shone through his sketches. It pervaded his conversation. He belonged to a vanishing type—the Southern gentleman of the old Virginian school. Simple, courteous and kind hearted, he delighted in extending his hospitality to all comers and never lost interest in those with whom he was thrown in contact. In his youth he knew extreme poverty. In middle age he knew great wealth. Neither soured nor spoiled him. The old-fashioned ideas of morality were good enough for him. He took life as he found it and wrote of it in a friendly spirit, which, while perhaps not, in critical jargon, "deep," made pleasant reading. It had the flavor of all that was charming in the old South.

"In Ole Virginia" and "Meh Lady" have a permanent place in sectional fiction. They have given Thomas Nelson Page his niche in American literature.

Back to Health and Safety

As Budget Director General Lord is carrying on with dash the splendid work begun by General Dawes. He will be able next week to send the budget book for 1923-'24 to President Harding with a balance on the right side of the ledger. The Director will inform the President and Congress that the Federal revenues for 1923-'24 will reach $3,198,000,000, and that they will more than cover estimated appropriations. The country will have descended from the non-war expenditure peak of the $6,403,000,000 in 1919-'20 to less than half that figure next year.

It is a marvelous achievement, and one that touches the wellbeing of every man, woman and child in the United States. President Harding took into the White House with him the idea that one of the fundamentals of recovery was a pitiless slashing of the government's high scale of living costs. Congress had pledged itself to heroic retrenchment and, without any aid from the Executive, expenditure for 1920-'21 was cut from $6,403,000,000 to $5,115,000,000. In 1921-'22, the first year of the Harding Administration, actual expenditure fell to $3,373,000,000, and there was a substantial Treasury surplus. That was because some of last year's obligations were carried over into this year. For 1922-'23 the Treasury has been expecting a deficit of $698,000,000, since appropriations were left at the old level while revenues were reduced in the tax revision law of 1921. Yet General Lord is constantly enforcing economy in the use of this year's appropriations and can already promise that the indicated deficit of $698,000,000 will never materialize.

The cure for all post-war economic troubles is excess of income over outgo. The United States, though lightening its tax burden, has now reached this salutary state of equilibrium. It is a prosaic economic feat, but one of greater moment than almost any other feat of post-war statesmanship.

A Worth While Congressman

Walter M. Chandler is the senior Republican member of Manhattan's Congress delegation. He is a modest man, using only four lines in the "Congressional Directory" to tell about himself. They do not do him justice, for they do not even hint at the picturesqueness of his earlier struggles to go to Congress or at the qualities as a campaigner which have given him a hold on his upper West Side district.

Mr. Chandler is that strange combination in politics of an orator, a recondite lawyer and a hard-working utility man Congressman. Nobody in Washington attends more faithfully to the routine of ministering to his constituents. If you vote in his district it is your fault, not his, if you don't get everything coming to you, from seeds to public documents.

On the other hand, he is an eminent member of the House Judiciary Committee—a body of constitutional sages—and an orator to whom his colleagues always listen with delight. He is a New Yorker who counts in legislation and in the creation of an atmosphere of friendliness toward New York.

In 1912 Mr. Chandler carried the 19th District as a Progressive candidate. He defeated a Republican as well as a Democratic opponent, and was the only Progressive in the state to hang up that record. Two years later he ran as a Republican, and he has been the Republican nominee at every election since. He lost his seat very unexpectedly in 1918, but regained it in 1920. He is a Congressman who contributes something worth while to the community, and deserves re-election on his admirable record.

The New Jersey Senate Fight

Joseph S. Frelinghuysen's campaign for re-election as United States Senator from New Jersey has, according to most observers, gained much headway in the last two or three weeks. Mr. Frelinghuysen has something substantive to present to the voters—his own record in Congress, his vote against the bonus, his support of the shipping bill, which interests New Jersey as a state with large maritime interests, his general attitude of support toward the policies of the Harding Administration.

Here is a positive exhibit. His opponent, Governor Edward I. Edwards, offers nothing but an irrelevant aspiration. All the Governor's hopes and dreams—political, not personal, for Mr. Edwards practices total abstinence—are centered on the restoration of a status of legalized "wetness." All that the Democratic candidate stands for is summed up in a non-participating vow to make New Jersey and the remainder of its inhabitants as wet as the Atlantic Ocean—particularly that part beyond the three-mile limit.

This is an issue which at present is outside party politics. Nationally, neither the Democratic nor the Republican party will touch it. It is a question, if Mr. Edwards were elected Senator, whether he would have an opportunity to vote to submit an amendment rescinding the prohibition amendment. He might or he might not. Yet he has based his appeal to the New Jersey voters on this one remote and nebulous contingency.

He is obstinately riding a single idea, little related to the actualities of politics. He must be doing this designedly. Yet his candidacy has stagnated because its scope is too narrow. Is New Jersey merely to take a wet referendum next Tuesday or to elect a man to wrestle with many other more immediate political problems at Washington?

Mr. Frelinghuysen's feet are on the ground. He has made a practical record as Senator. He seeks a decision on the facts of the case, and is plainly entitled to re-election. Mr. Edwards has dodged primary political facts. He has edged away from the bonus, the tariff, the shipping bill and even the League of Nations. He seeks to be elected simply because of a benevolent desire not to be wet himself but to be the moving cause of wetness for others.

More Truth Than Poetry

By James J. Montague

Two Men

The man who takes my money,
When I bank it, once a week,
Has a smile that's softly sunny
And a voice that's mildly meek.
He always tries to show me—
I can read it on his map—
That he's mighty glad to know me,
And he thinks I'm quite a chap.

But there's nothing that is sunny
On the visage, dour and dank,
Of the man who *pays* me money
When I draw it from the bank.
I can see his disposition
In his glum and surly look;
I can take in his suspicion
That I'm nothing but a crook.

Gratitude appears to savor
The *receiving* teller's grin;
He regards it as a favor
That I put my money in.
There is hatred in the glitter
Of the *paying* teller's eye,
For to him it's hard and bitter
To let any cash get by.

I am always light and merry—
Fit for any playful prank—
On the mornings when I carry
My small savings to the bank.
But I'm far from being cheerful—
I am clothed with gloom and doubt,
Feeling guilty, scared and fearful—
When I draw my money out!

Something Else Again

As a rule, the man who complains loudest about the cost of living is the man who goes around offering speculators $50 apiece for tickets to a Yale-Harvard football game.

Doesn't Help Much

Too many dramatic companies give the star merely their moral support.

They'll Be Against Him

A Premier named Law is not likely to make much of a hit with the Irish.

The Skipper's Dilemma

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Judge Hand has said that our ships must be dry wherever they may be. Long ago international law placed American ships (except men of war), while in foreign ports, directly under the laws of those ports. We cannot hope to enforce our laws on foreign ships in our ports and escape foreign laws with our ships in foreign ports. An American skipper can be arrested for having wine on his ship in an American port, and he might be arrested for not having it on board in a foreign port. JOHN GRAHAM.

Leonia, N. J., Oct. 29, 1922.

The Tower

LITERARY NOTES

Mr. Humphrey Padden, the novelist, writes best when he is surrounded by a crowd. . . . It is his custom to take five or six stenographers with him wherever he goes, and he goes nearly everywhere.

* * *

Recently an idea came to him while he was in the Opera House, and he jotted down the scenario for his next story with a burnt match on the shirt-front of a stranger who sat next him. . . . Three of his secretaries then tore the man's shirt from the man and transcribed the notes. . . . Mr. Padden loves to write sonnets with india ink on the bald heads of hoboes whom he meets in jails. . . . He began this many years ago merely for amusement, when he was a hobo himself.

* * *

But since then these lyrical outbursts have become immensely valuable, and his publishers are now collecting hoboes.

* * *

There are hundreds of hoboes circulating throughout the world who do not realize that they are first editions. . . . Mrs. Eddington Mowbray is very domestic. . . . She likes to work at home. . . . The first draft of her play, "Aunt Cassie's Wen," was penned with her left hand, while with her right hand she wielded the whip that kept the dog churn moving. . . . She prides herself on her butter.

* * *

So absorbed was she in the play that she was writing that she did not notice until the plot was outlined that she had hitched her husband to the dog churn instead of the dog. . . . Mr. Mowbray has always sympathized with her ambitions, and she says that he has been a great help to her.

* * *

He was quite a wild young fellow when he was a young fellow, and it is hinted that he is really the protagonist of a book Mrs. Mowbray is now writing. . . . He told her All. . . . He is like that. . . . He would. . . . She is telling it to the World. . . . Even how she married him to make an Honest Man of him. . . . Reticence is one of the chief charms of much current literature.

* * *

And one finds a good deal of this Reticence. . . . It is used to pad out the spaces between Revelations. . . . And there are so many Revelations that it takes a lot of Reticence to fill in between them. . . . The Revelations are in print, and the Reticences are in the form of lines of stars.

* * *

Like these.

* * *

Contributing, as we said, one of its chief charms to much current literature. . . . We have not yet had time to read Mrs. Doddlesby Dingle's latest book of essays, but we are sure they are rotten, because she gets all her ideas from her husband, a pretentious fluff with horn-rimmed glasses, who has owed us $20 since 1913. . . . He thinks he has to mention it to us every three or four months.

* * *

The ideas which Doddlesby gives to his wife he gets from back numbers of the highbrow magazines, and she sells the essays she writes to the same magazines. . . . This is what is known in certain horn-rimmed circles as Building a Solid Reputation. . . . Mr. Dingle married her because he has no sense of humor.

* * *

She has. . . . It is very deep and subtle. . . . That is why she married him.

* * *

The Pennington Quills have just returned from London. . . . They are now busy giving the impression that they were greatly liked and sought after by English literary people.

* * *

But that they did not care much for English literary people themselves. . . . Their teamwork is splendid. . . . Mr. Ashburton Dank is in this country lecturing to the Women's Clubs of New York City, Des Moines, Richmond, Minneapolis and Boston on the mysticism of the peasantry of Sussex. . . . The scenes of all his stories are laid in Sussex.

* * *

"Nothing succeeds like Sussex," Mr. Ashburton Dank confided to us recently. . . . He is quick as a flash, mentally. . . . "Is there much sex stuff in your novels?" we asked him. . . .

* * *

"Only Sussex stuff," he replied. The Old Soak is engaged on a new volume of his memoirs. . . . He is quick as a flask, mentally. . . . Aunt Prudence Hecklebury tells us that if she was to set down on paper all she knows about the goings-on of people she used to know in Hecklebury Corners, where she was born and brought up, it would make a book that . . . that . . .

* * *

Well, we gathered that it couldn't be illustrated. . . . Will the strong young Demon of Revelation ever clasp Aunt Prudence in his irresistible arms and woo from her virgin bosom the awful truth, we wonder? . . . But it is unfair to connect Aunt Prudence with a figure of speech such as that. . . . If she should read it she would never feel again that she was quite justified in referring to herself as a maiden lady. . . . It was on Halloween that we met the ghost of Laurence Sterne.

* * *

"The boys are getting away with a lot of stuff these days," said Laurence. "But most of them seem to have forgotten the perfume."

DON MARQUIS.

COUNT YOUR CHICKENS THIS WEEK. NEXT WEEK THERE MAY NOT BE SO MANY.

Hazing at Annapolis

By Quarterdeck

There have been waves of hazing and misconduct by midshipmen at the Naval Academy in almost every administration since the school was established by George Bancroft in 1845. It is manifest that the superintendent and officers can alone handle such cases. If they are sustained discipline will survive. If they are not sustained discipline will be shattered.

From the beginning, however, politics and politicians have intervened to hamper the superintendent and nullify his constant effort to maintain a high standard of scholarship and conduct. Forty years ago the historian declares:

"There were the politicians, pure and simple, who knew little and cared less about naval education but who regarded the Naval Academy as furnishing many places wherewith to repay constituents for value received."

Rear Admiral C. R. P. Rodgers, who was superintendent in 1876, fought a battle for the Naval Academy and the navy when he insisted that the superintendent should be trusted and respected in all disciplinary and educational matters and that politics and "influence" should not control at Annapolis. Fortunately the Secretary of the Navy at that time stood by the admiral and declared that "the superintendent and the academic board will be regarded as more competent than the Navy Department to decide" in questions of misconduct and failure in studies. But the victory was only temporary. Politics, like truth, "when crushed to earth will rise again," and the historian, subsequently referring to the Naval Academy, declares:

"It has been treated seldom otherwise than with apathy by Congress except when questions of patronage were at stake, and then the influences brought to bear upon it have too often been those of the demagogue and petty politician."

The law against hazing is drastic. But no sooner does the superintendent proceed to enforce the law and to dismiss the guilty in conformity with the law than Congressmen and powerful influences are brought to bear against the enforcement of the law! The superintendent and the officers have frequently been condemned for the existing conditions and the midshipmen have escaped. Naturally this invites recurrent contempt for authority. There is little fear of punishment, and there is always the confident hope of going free. This is disastrous to discipline.

There are ample laws against all forms of misconduct and failure in studies at the Naval Academy. The Revised Statutes of the United States, the Laws for the Government of the Navy, which are read to the midshipmen from time to time, make it the duty of any commanding officer to "be vigilant in inspecting the conduct of all persons who are placed under his command; to guard against and suppress all dissolute and immoral practices and to correct according to the laws and regulations of the navy all persons who are guilty of them." And the commanding officer is required to bring to trial by court martial any person "who is guilty of profane swearing, falsehood, gambling, fraud, theft, or any other scandalous conduct tending to the destruction of good morals."

Thus the standards of the navy are high and always have been. Politics and politicians have no more right to interfere with and control the administration of discipline at the Naval Academy than they have to dictate the methods of handling the personnel of the fleet. The law is perfectly clear. But the records will show that politics as well as midshipmen often violate the law with impunity.

The demoralizing rule of politics reached the climax seven years ago when the superintendent urged the dismissal of midshipmen who were guilty of cheating on examinations. They were guilty of "fraud, falsehood and scandalous conduct tending to the destruction of good morals." There was no doubt about it. But politicians, Senators, Congressmen, candidates for Governor of Maryland and the chairmen of the Naval and Military committees of the House interposed. The Secretary of the Navy, instead of sustaining the superintendent as in the case of Admiral Rodgers, gave way to political pressure; evidence was ruled out on technicalities, and young men who had violated the navy's standards of duty, discipline, decency and honor were cleared and retained at the Naval Academy. The superintendent demanded his detachment rather than remain at the academy when its standards were so debased.

It is fortunate for the Naval Academy and for the honor of the navy that the demoralizing influences of political meddling have not been supported by the present administration of the Navy Department. The shame of the past may give way to a new era of dignified discipline in which officers as well as midshipmen will, in the words of the law, be "required to show in themselves a good example of virtue, honor, patriotism and subordination." Such a standard has always been the aim of every superintendent of the Naval Academy since 1845. Politics alone has threatened the naval code that fixes the character of "an officer and a gentleman."

What Readers Are Thinking

Miss Taylor for Children's Judge

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I wish I could vote in Westchester County this fall, for I could then help to elect Ruth Taylor judge of the new Juvenile Court. As I merely work in the State of New York and sleep and vote in New Jersey I must content myself with writing why I would like to vote for Miss Taylor.

I am not from Missouri but from Illinois in respect to the fitness of women to sit on the bench of a juvenile court. For many years Miss Mary Bartelme under the judge of the Cook County Probate Court was public guardian of children who needed such guardianship. In this position she showed such conspicuous ability in the care and education and training of children that for the past five or more years she has been repeatedly reappointed by the sitting judges of the Juvenile Court as assistant judge, to hear and determine the difficult cases of delinquency among girls. Seeing a woman's efficiency in a juvenile court is believing in it.

In the New York State law are these words: "and that as far as practicable they [children] shall be treated not as criminals but as children in need of aid, encouragement and guidance."

Mary Bartelme showed remarkable ability to serve children as public guardian for years before she was made assistant judge of the Juvenile Court. The reward for doing work for children well was more work to do. So in Westchester County Ruth Taylor, as head of the Department of Child Welfare, has won a national reputation for her remarkable service to the dependent, neglected and delinquent children of Westchester County.

The reward of her good work for children should be more work to do.

HENRY W. THURSTON,
Head of the Department of Child Welfare, New York School of Social Work.

New York, Nov. 1, 1922.

Broadening the Rent Laws

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The decision of the Appellate Term, Second Department, that new tenants in old buildings are protected by the rent laws is in direct opposition to the Appellate Division, First Department, the latter being a higher court than the former.

I have not Justice Cropsey's official decision before me, but if the newspaper reports be correct the conclusion arrived at is from implications as to what the rent laws should contain rather than what they actually contain. The Farnham (Appellate Division) decision was after the April, 1922, amendments and not before; the former wipes out the latter and should have been controlling with the Appellate Term, Second Department.

It is our intention to take to the Court of Appeals the question of whether new tenants in old buildings are within or without the rent laws. We hold that they are without them, and we believe that the Court of Appeals will agree with us.

STEWART BROWNE,
President United Real Estate Owners' Association.

New York, Nov. 1, 1922.

Amendments to Enforce

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I do not wonder your correspondent James W. Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, insists that there be proper law enforcement against mob violence and crime. Not only that, but there should be enforcement of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments, so that the colored people who are born in this country shall have a free ballot and a fair count in the South, just the same as there is for the foreign-born vote in the North.

It is a shame and a disgrace to expend so much effort, time and money for enforcement of the Prohibition Amendment while the Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments remain dead letters. J. THOMPSON.

New York, Nov. 1, 1922.

The Bootlegger's Prospects

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The argument of one of your correspondents that with the possible return of beer and wine (92 per cent of the former liquor traffic) the bootlegger would still be able to dispose of the 8 per cent of the former traffic—in this case bootleg whisky—is refuted by the fact that British Columbia issued only 6,568 prescriptions for liquor in the fiscal year just ended, whereas during the year when the province was "dry"—without beer—141,057 prescriptions for liquor were issued. FRED SCHWARZ.

New York, Nov. 1, 1922.